Export of Tapioca Flour.

20. *MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is increased scarcity of food materials in the State consequent on the export of tapioca flour from the State at present when we do not get an adequate supply of rice and other food-stuffs?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: The export of tapioca flour has been prohibited.

Profiteering in the sale of rice.

21 *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have any information that rice is being sold at B. Rs. 8-15-8 per standard para in Mavelikara and whether they have taken any steps to proceed against these profiteers and punish them?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: No.

Instances of profiteering when brought to their notice are dealt with by Government under the law.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the Government are aware of the information published in the Travancore Government Gazette stating that rice is being sold at Mavelikara at Bh. Rs. 8-15-8 per standard para.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR. Instances of profiteering have come to the notice of Government and steps have been taken to prevent such practices.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: My question was "Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have any information that rice is being sold at B. Rs. 8-15-8 per standard para in Mavelikara" etc. I want the answer to that question. I want to know also where the information appearing the Gazette came from.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: It will be looked into.

Transfer of acting hands.

22. *MR. C. RAMASWAMY NADAR (*Tovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the acting hands in Government service are allowed to claim T. A. when they are transferred from one place to another;

(*b*) whether they are given any joining time when they are transferred to distant places;

(*c*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative whether the acting hands make the journey without any expense;

(*d*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the negative, whether an acting hand when relieved from the P. W. D. Office, Devicolam, to join duty in the P. W. D. Office, Nagercoil, will be able to report himself for duty the next day itself; and

(*e*) whether it is considered break of service according to T. S. R. if an acting hand takes joining time as in the case of permanent hands in Government service?

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MR. A. LAKSHMINARAYANA AYYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, subject to the provisions of Articles 471 and 127, Travancore Service Regulations, a copy of which is placed on the Secretary's table.

(*c*) & (*d*) These do not arise in view of the answers to parts (*a*) and (*b*).

(*e*) No; if the conditions of Article 127, T. S. R. are satisfied.

Food Control and Distribution Committees.

23. *MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have organised in all the taluk and pakuthies 'Food Control and Distribution Committees' with non-official members since 1-5-1118; and

(*b*) if so, what is the nature of the work those committees are expected to do?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (*a*) Division and Taluk Food Control Committees have been formed in which non-officials are also included.

(*b*) To secure the objects outlined in the Press Note, dated the 3rd December 1942, *viz.*, to assist the local officers in the work of purchase and distribution of paddy and rice.

Rice Mills.

24. *MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received any representation praying for the stopping of all rice mills in the State as a means of solving the present food problem; and

(*b*) if so, their decision on the same?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (*a*) and (*b*) No; but Government have issued Notification R. O. C. No. 2477/42/C. F. S., dated the 10th October 1942, prescribing that in polishing the rice not more than 25 per cent. of the bran be removed.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether the Government have any idea of the number of rice mills in the State?

PRESIDENT: I may say for the information of the member that Government have under consideration the question of the abolition of all rice mills in the State.

Grant-in-aid to teachers of primary schools.

25. *MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total number of teachers in primary classes of Malayalam Schools conducted by private management who are not getting any grant at present;

(*b*) the total amount required for giving them also grant-in-aid; and

(*c*) whether the Government have, or the Director of Public Instruction has, considered the question of giving them also grant-in-aid?

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